



NORTH COUNTRY

COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

MINUTES OF THE BOARD

June 15, 2023, 4:00 PM

**North Country Community Mental Health
1420 Plaza Drive, Petoskey, Board Room**

BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Caroline Loper, Edward Ginop, Michael Newman, Ron Iseler, Karla Sherman, Jarris Rubingh, Dana Wingo, David White, Annemarie Conway, Edward Belitz

MEMBERS ATTENDING VIRTUALLY: Gary Knapp

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Robert Boyd

STAFF: Brian Babbitt, Nancy Rhue, Tim Stapp Jr., Carole Merritt-Doherty, Amy Christie, Kim Rappleyea, Ann Friend

GUESTS: Adria Clark- Wayne State University- Stepping Up

Mr. Ginop called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM

ROLL CALL

Mr. Ginop welcomed Board members and staff to the meeting. There is a quorum present.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST: No board members expressed a conflict with any agenda item.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda includes the agenda overview, minutes of the previous meeting, privileging recommendations and contracts signed in the past month. Items requiring approval will be placed on the meeting agenda.

MOTION BY KARLA SHERMAN TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA; SUPPORT BY CAROLINE LOPER.

MOTION CARRIED.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS – BOARD ACTION*

Executive Committee Report: Mr. Ginop reviewed the minutes of the May 25th meeting. Agenda items included approval of the schematic design phase of the owner architect agreement for the building in Kalkaska and approval of the minutes as read.

Finance Committee Report: Mr. White reviewed the Statement of Cash on Deposit and Disbursements through May 2023; Interim Financial Statements as of April 30, 2023 Revenue and Expense by Fund Source; Trending Revenue and Expenses as of April 30, 2023; NMRE Funding Source Report, Fee Assessment Policy Update, and a discussion with Yvonne Carr .

MOTION BY DAVID WHITE TO APPROVE THE UPDATED FEE ASSESSMENT POLICY TO INCLUDE A SLIDING FEE DISCOUNT PROGRAM FOR ALL INDIVIDUALS REQUESTING SERVICES; SUPPORT BY ANNEMARIE CONWAY:

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Ginop requested the financial reports be placed on file for audit.

PRESENTATION – Stepping Up - Carole Merritt- Doherty and Adria Clark: The goals of the Stepping-Up initiative are to reduce the prevalence of persons with SMI in jails, increase connections to treatment, shorten lengths of jail stays, and reduce recidivism to county jails. As of 2021 all 6 counties NCCMH serves have signed Stepping – Up Resolutions. Jail walkthroughs have been completed in all counties except for Kalkaska County as their jail is not currently housing inmates. Sheriff Whiteford has shown interest in continuing to discuss jail diversion in Kalkaska County. Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, and Emmet Counties have already collected and presented K6 Data. K6 data comes from a survey inmates fill out which is a preassessment tool to screen for mental health or substance use disorders and gives the jails a heads up on whether an inmate may need services or not. Otsego County started collecting the data on 6/1/23, 250 arrests must occur before the data can be analyzed. Charlevoix County has a fully formed and functional Jail Diversion Council. Antrim, Emmet, and Cheboygan Counties are currently forming their Jail Diversion Councils. Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, and Emmet Counties all have regularly scheduled meetings and Otsego County meets as needed.

ACTION ITEMS WITHOUT COMMITTEE REVIEW: None

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT/COMMUNICATIONS: Mr. Babbitt referred to several items in his report. He noted that he attended the final 4 events that NCCMH sponsored for May is Mental Health Awareness Month. On May 23rd he virtually attended the NMRE PIHP site review exit conference. On the 26th he virtually attended the Rural Mental Health Caucus, the caucus is designed to filter MDHHS policy through a rural lens, policies that would work well in urban areas often are not feasible in rural areas like ours. He shared a proposal approved by the CMHA titled “Proposal for rural-oriented public mental health policies and practices in Michigan”. June 5-7 Mr. Babbitt attended the CMHAM Summer Conference in Traverse City. He shared the KB lawsuit interim agreement, this lawsuit surrounds children’s services, and is why there is a children’s bureau at MDHHS now. He also shared Draft House Bill 4925 brought forward by Representative Curt Vanderwall, this bill mirrors Senator Shirkey’s and Representative Whiteford’s attempts to privatize the public mental health system and turn Medicaid dollars over to private, for-profit insurance companies. The bill is not expected to gain much traction in the house. Mr. Babbitt drew attention to the issues media article on NCCMH’s partnership with Pine Rest to train Child & Adolescent psychiatric fellows. This arrangement is advantageous for Pine Rest and for NCCMH as it increases our ability to provide services to our adolescent population, and it gives the second year Psychiatric Fellows rural mental health training. Mr. Babbitt provided an update on the Justin A. Borra Behavioral Health Center in

Cheboygan. LARA (Licensing and Regulatory Affairs) had not yet done the site review, so they are not yet seeing patients. The site review is expected to be completed soon and then they will be able to start seeing patients. Mr. Babbitt drew attention to an article in his report that has pictures of the facility.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT UPDATE – None

NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY- Minutes of the April NMRE OPS meeting and Draft Minutes of May Board Meeting were included in the packet. The NMRE Financial report for April was handed out at the meeting. Mr. Babbitt has a meeting scheduled with NMRE regarding the Alpine Crisis Unit in Gaylord

OLD BUSINESS – Antrim County Meeting discussion- Antrim County Commission on Aging is happy to host us, however, in August, that happens to coincide with their senior jubilee so the building would not be available. Every other month they are happy to host us. Construction should start soon on the Antrim County building. Ms. Rhue will reach out to the Antrim County commission on aging to see if we can do our September meeting there.

Kalkaska Office Building update- KMHC is amenable to us owning the building if/when we build. There is a walkthrough meeting scheduled. Mr. Babbitt spoke on the building committees that were created during the Charlevoix and Emmet County building searches. He feels that it is premature to convene a building committee at this point.

NEW BUSINESS – Board Meeting Time change discussion. Two board members had reached out to Ms. Rhue asking about the possibility of time change of the board meeting. Between conflicting meetings on other committees and late travel in the winter on dark roads, an earlier time could be advantageous. Ms. Rhue is going to send out a survey and will bring the results to the board at the July meeting.


BOARD & STAFF COMMENTS – Mr. Rubingh asked if we have information on the number of persons served based on longevity by NCCMH. Ms. Christie and Mr. Babbitt believe that we can find that data. Ms. Wingo said that she believes that data would be great to use to promote community awareness.

Mr. Belitz asked if anyone was attending the Veteran's summit on the 24th at the Haggerty Center at Northwest Michigan College.

Ms. Wingo thanked Mr. Babbitt for presenting the Annual report to the Otsego County Board of commissioners on June 13th.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:24 PM by Board Chair Edward Ginop.


Ed Ginop, Board Chair